BH:clm 03/09/06 7156-70278-01 497213 JCB/P109148US

Attorney Ref. No. 7156-70278-01

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of: Filho and Albuquerque

**Application No. 10/767,539** 

Filed: January 29, 2004 Confirmation No. 5352

ASSEMBLY AND METHOD FOR

STIFFENING A FLEXIBLE PIPE

**Examiner:** Patrick F. Brinson

Art Unit: 3754

Attorney Reference No. 7156-70278-01

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT **COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS** P.O. BOX 1450 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

#### **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Attorney or Agent for Applicant(s)

Date Mailed March 9

## TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Enclosed is an Amendment for the above application. The fee has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
For	No. after amendment	No. paid for previously		Present Extra	Rate	Fee
Total Claims	16	- 20*	=	0	\$50.00	\$ 0.00
Indep. Claims	4	- 6**	=	0	\$200.00	\$ 0.00
Mult. Dep. Claims Fee (if not previously paid)					\$360.00	\$0.00
One-month Extension of Time				\$120.00	\$0.00	
Two-month Extension of Time				\$450.00	\$0.00	
Three-month Extension of Time					\$1,020.00	\$0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						\$0.00

<sup>\*</sup> greater of twenty or number for which fee has been paid.

M No additional fee is required.

Please charge any additional fees that may be required in connection with filing this amendment and any extension of time, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4550. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

<sup>\*\*</sup> greater of three or number for which fee has been paid.

- If the Patent and Trademark Office determines that this amendment results in an additional application size fee for pages in excess of 100, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 02-4550. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- Please return the enclosed postcard to confirm that the items listed above have been received.

Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

By:

Jeffrey B. Haendler

Registration No. 43,652

One World Trade Center, Suite 1600 121 S.W. Salmon Street Portland, Oregon 97204

Telephone: (503) 595-5300 Facsimile: (503) 228-9446

cc: Docketing

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Remarks begin on page 5.

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Attorney or Agent for Applicant(s)\_\_\_\_

Date Mailed March 9, 2006

## AMENDMENT AND INTERVIEW SUMMARY

This responds to the Office action dated December 21, 2005. The action sets a three-month period for responding, making a reply due March 21, 2006. Please amend the referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2.